



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Mr Ahsan Ul Haq

Sent by email only to;
Ahsan.ulhaq@aol.com

Charity Commission
PO Box 211
Bootle
L20 7YX

Our ref: AG/C-498691/RC

Date: 21 June 2019

Dear Mr Ul Haq

DAR UL ULOOM ISLAMIA RIZWIA (BRALAWAI) - 517381

I am writing to you as charity trustee and contact for the Charity Commission about a number of regulatory issues that have been raised with us.

You should bring this letter to all of the trustees' attention.

I am the case officer assessing these concerns please direct all correspondence to me quoting the above case reference number.

The Commission assesses concerns on a case-by-case basis against its published [Risk Framework](#) and its published guidance 'Complaints about Charities - [CC47](#)'. Both documents are available on our website and explain what types of complaints we will and will not take up.

Regulatory Concerns

We are currently assessing the following concerns

1. Mismanagement of charity assets

We have received complaints of financial irregularities and misappropriation of funds at the charity. It has been alleged that approximately £100,000.00 of charitable funds have been misappropriated by former trustee, Mr Mohammed Saleem Akhtar. This incident has not been reported to the Police.

2. Safeguarding

We are aware of an incident that was reported in a number of media articles in April 2019 involving the alleged assault of a child by current trustee, Mr Saddique Hussain, at Ghamkol Sharif Education Centre. We have not received a *serious incident report* from the trustees. We understand there is an active Police Investigation. Staff members who witnessed the incident were dismissed.

It appears the Education Centre closed following this incident. Despite this, there is still one class that is operating from the charity.

The charity's trustees may wish to consider whether they need to seek legal or other professional advice. This is a decision for the trustees.

In order to consider how to progress this matter I require the following information from the charity;

Information required.

1. Provide a full, detailed account in response to the allegations made in respect of the misappropriation of £100,000.00 of charitable funds.
2. Provide us with a copy of the charity's financial controls policy. Explain how often this is reviewed and when the last review took place.
3. Explain in detail, what oversight trustees have of the charity's finances.
4. Explain in detail, what steps were taken by trustees to investigate the alleged abuse of a beneficiary.
5. Provide us with an update on the Police investigation.
6. It appears Mr Saddique Hussain is still listed as a trustee on our register. Advise whether this is correct and if so, explain how the trustees came to the decision to allow Mr Hussain to remain on the board. (Evidence of this decision being made should be provided in the trustee minutes of meetings).
7. Explain why this incident was not reported to us as a 'Serious Incident'?
8. Detail what checks are undertaken by the charity against any new or current employees/volunteers/ trustees. For example DBS checks.
9. Provide a copy of the charity's current safeguarding policy and complaints procedure. Explain how often these are reviewed and when the last review took

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place.

10. Explain how beneficiaries know how to report safeguarding concerns.
11. How do the trustees/volunteers/staff know how to deal with any Safeguarding concerns?
12. What steps have been taken to protect the charity's reputation following these incidents?
13. Explain how trustees came to the decision to close the Education Centre but allow one class to continue operating from the charity (provide the minutes of the meeting in which this decision was made).
14. Explain how the charity is still fulfilling its charitable object of 'advancing education' following the closure of the Education Centre.
15. Provide copies of minutes of trustee meetings for the last 3 years.

Whilst these regulatory concerns are being considered, co-operation from the trustees is essential. The trustees' responses are important in deciding what action we may or may not need to take to resolve any issues

If other issues emerge during the course of our engagement with the Charity it may also be necessary to explore these. I will notify you if this is the case.

Way forward

I look forward to hearing from you by *4 July*. If you cannot meet this deadline, please let me know immediately and before the deadline expires.

Yours sincerely

Ashleigh Gibbons
Case Manager - Regulatory Compliance
Charity Commission for England and Wales

Email: RCCorres1@charitycommission.gov.uk

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